

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1. - 6. (Canceled)

7. (New) Actuator for use in a buckle of a safety belt for indicating that a tongue of the belt has been inserted into the buckle and properly latched, comprising two contact elements, a housing and a slide, the contact elements comprising contact-effecting portions, a contact-effecting portion of a first of the contacts comprising two contact blades, the housing comprising a space in which the contact-effecting portions are contained, the space being sufficiently bounded by walls of the housing to at least substantially prevent incursion of foreign matter into the space, the housing also including an open-ended channel adjacent said space and partitioned from said space by a portion of said walls, the slide being slidably received in said channel for actuating the contact elements so that the respective contact-effecting portions thereof are brought into or out of contact with each other.

8. (New) Actuator according to claim 7, wherein a second of the contact elements further comprises a portion projecting through a space between the blades of the first contact element and at least partially into the channel so that said projecting portion of the second contact element is engageable by the slide to move the contact-effecting portion of the second contact element out of contact with the contact-effecting portion of the first contact element.

9. (New) Actuator according to claim 7, wherein a second of the contact elements further comprises a portion projecting directly at least partially into the channel so that said projecting portion of the second contact element is engageable by the slide to move the contact-effecting portion of the second contact element into contact with the contact-effecting portion of the first contact element.

10. (New) Actuator according to claim 8 or 9, wherein the second contact element comprises a contact spring and the two blades of the first contact element are elastically bendable independently of one another when the contact-effecting portions thereof are contacted by the contact-effecting portion of the second contact element.

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11. (New) Actuator according to claim 10, wherein the contact-effecting portion of said contact spring is of hammer-like shape and the projecting portion of said contact spring is curved.

12. (New) Actuator according to claim 7, further comprising a frame at an end of the housing opposed to an end of the housing adjacent wherein the contact-effecting portions of two contact elements are housed, the frame defining a space for projection thereinto of connections of electrical wires to the contact elements.